

THE VIRASAIVA MOVEMENT

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the lamb die and save those whom God has
doomed?

No need is there for lamb or calf. Bring
the holy
leaf, bring water from the spring, come in
joy and
stand humble, and worship Lord Kudala
Sangaina

with heart and soul. Basavanna condemned
also the
practice of worshipping any and every
thing which
was common among the people. A pot is
divinity;

a tree is divinity; the stone in the street
is divinity;

a lamb is another, the bow and bow-string
are still

other divinities. The measure is a divinity,
the thing

measured is another. There was no standing
room on

account of these many Gods. " Believe me
there is

but one God and he is our Lord Kudala
Sangama."

Basavanna should have seen persons who
accepted his

faith but continued to share in other forms
of worship.

The men who worshipped God and bowed
to lesser

divinity were, he said, like the mule born
of the ass

and the horse. How could he call them
devotees?

Or servants of God? Or His saints?
"Believe me,

Lord Kudala Sangama loves not the man
of two

minds." In another place addressing these
people of

two minds he said that to the good wife,
but one man

is husband. To the devotee who can be
devoted, but

one God is God. Thought of other divinity
was evil,

to think of another God infidelity. " If God
Kudala

Sangama should know, he would cut their noses."

Cutting the nose seems to have been punishment which in those days a husband who discovered infidelity in his wife could inflict on her.

Basavanna knew man's weakness and distrusted the pleasures of the senses and prayed to God to help him from temptation.